Appl. No.: 10/718,869
Amendment and Response

Docket No.: 085804.013100

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application, of which claims 1 and 13-15 are independent. Claim 13 has been amended. No new matter is presented. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim 13 was objected to due to a minor typographical error. In response, Applicant has amended claim 13 to include a semicolon at the end of the "monitoring information" claim element. Applicant respectfully submits that this objection should now be removed.

Claims 1, 2, 6-8 and 10-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,662,194 (Joao) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0147701 (Chang). Claims 3-5 were rejected under 35 § U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joao in view of Chang and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,968,513 (Rinebold). Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Joao in view of Chang and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,868,389 (Wilkins). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

According to the method recited in claim 1, inquiry data is received, the inquiry data is related to an inquiry of a user with a listing service about a listing posted by an entity other than the user. A user's lead is created in response to the user's inquiry using the received inquiry data, the user's lead is to be pursued by the user that makes the inquiry with the listing service. The user's lead is stored as a lead record in a database. Information related to the lead record that is received by the processor is monitored, and using this received information, an action record is dynamically created each time an action to be taken in furtherance of the user's lead is identified. The lead and action records comprise information to provide the user with a status of the user's lead. A user interface is communicated to the user that comprises information from the lead and action records and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services.

Joao is understood to disclose an apparatus and method for providing job searching services, recruitment services and/or recruitment-related services for respective individuals, employees, independent contractors, freelancers, employers and/or hiring entities.

Chang describes a method for searching in multiple human resource hosts via a computer, wherein the computer comprises a user interface (UI) for accessing a search condition. The method begins with inputting the search conditions on the UI. Next, the search conditions are

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transmitted to the human resource hosts with each of the human resource hosts' data format retrieved from a server data format database in the computer. After that, each human resource host retrieves a search result according to the search conditions, and then posts the search result to the computer. Then the search result is stored in a found profile database of the computer and displayed in a UI. The method enables a user to register and search the suitable job seekers or position-vacant companies simultaneously in the multiple human resource hosts, instead of repeatedly inputting processes in different hosts.

Independent claim 1 recites, in part:

> using the received information, dynamically creating, by the processor, an action record each time an action to be taken in furtherance of the user's lead is identified;

The Office Action states (Page 5) that Joao does not teach the above claim element and relies on Chang as curing the deficiencies of Joao. The Office Action refers to Fig. 10, reference 901, Paragraph [0105], Fig. 11, references 1101 and 1121, and Paragraph [0106]. Fig. 10, reference 901 of Chang is a decision block to check if there is any new email. Fig. 11, reference 1121 is a block to "Reply a confirmed email and add the interview into a schedule software." This adding of an interview into schedule software occurs if Chang's user accepts the time of interview proposed by the sender (block 1103). Applicant respectfully submits that Chang's adding of an interview appointment into schedule software is not using received information to create an action record each time an action to be taken in furtherance of a user's lead is identified. Chang merely places an appointment for an interview in a calendar. This interview appointment is not a dynamically created action record as claimed because it is not dynamically created each time an action to be taken in furtherance of a user's lead is identified. Chang instead simply describes putting an appointment for an interview in a calendar. There is no distinct lead and distinct action record associated with an action to be taken in furtherance of the user's lead in Chang. Chang's interview information is placed in its schedule software, but Chang is silent as to this interview appointment being an action associated with a lead.

Independent claim 1 also recites, in part:

> communicating a user interface accessible by the user that visibly displays information from the lead record, action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services.

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The Office Action states that Joao discloses this claim element (except the action record) at col. 23, lines 5-13 and Chang discloses displaying the action record at Paragraphs [0106] and [0181]. Col. 23, lines 5-13 of Joao state:

> Any data and/or information described as being transmitted between the parties, and/or between the respective computers, can be transmitted electronically, such as via e-mail, electronic message transmission, telephone call, telephone message, facsimile transmission, pager message, and/or physical mail delivery. The employer can review the data and/or information, at step 215, and transmit a response to the central processing computer 10 at step 216.

Thus, this passage of Joao describes transmitting information electronically, such as via e-mail, telephone message, etc. Joao also describes a display device (Fig. 3, element 20E). Applicant respectfully submits that this passage of Joao does not teach or suggest communicating a user interface that visibly displays information from the lead record, action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services, as claimed. There is no user interface communicated in Joao that displays a lead record, an action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services.

It is respectfully submitted that Chang does not cure the deficiencies of Joao. Paragraphs [0106] and [0181] of Chang describe a user accepting an interview time and adding this to a user's schedule. Applicant respectfully submits that Chang's interview is not an action record associated with a particular lead, as described above. Further, these paragraphs of Chang do not teach or suggest communicating a user interface that visibly displays information from the lead record, the action record, and information related to the user's lead received from one or more ancillary services, as claimed. Chang describes displaying information such as search results on a user interface, but Chang does not disclose displaying the claimed information in its user interface. There is no action record in Chang, and as a result there is no display of an action record in Chang's user interface. Neither Rinebold nor Wilkins cures the deficiencies of Joao and Chang.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 1 and the claims that depend from claim 1 are believed to be in condition for allowance. In addition, for at least the same reasons, claims 13-15 are believed to be in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

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The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should matters remain which the Examiner believes could be resolved in an interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the Applicant's representative. The Applicants' attorney may be reached by telephone at 212-801-6729. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address given below, which is the address associated with Customer Number 76058.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fee in connection with the submission of this paper, any additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-1561. Please ensure that the Attorney Docket Number is referenced when charging any payments or credits for this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 29, 2010

/James J. DeCarlo/
James J. DeCarlo
Reg. No. 36,120

Customer Number 76058
GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP
Met Life Building
200 Park Avenue, 20th Floor
New York, New York 10166
Phone: (212) 801-9200
Fax: (212) 801-6400